

MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION

HELD ON 02/16/16 AT 12:30 P.M. AT THE RHINELANDER, WI, HIGHWAY SHOP

MEMBERS PRESENT: KIRBY/CHAIRMAN, PANOSH/DOT BOTS PROGRAM MGR, BENNETT/COORDINATOR, COOPER/O.C. HWY, WRYCHA/STATE PATROL, KEIFFER/WISDOT, GAUTHIER/O.C. SHERIFF'S DEPT, SUKIS/STATE PATROL, McELDOWNEY/LEGAL, BREKKE/PUBLIC

The following matters were taken up to wit:

1. Kirby called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. It was noted the meeting was properly posted and the media notified.
2. **Motion:** McEldowney/Keiffer to approve the agenda. All ayes.
3. **Motion:** Bennett/Kirby to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All ayes.
4. Discussed speed reduction request for County P. Dan Brekke from Brekke's Resort was present to ask the committee for any direction on what he needs to do to have the speed limit reduced on County Highway P. Bennett mentioned that this request has been made a few times and each time the Public Works Committee has asked the requester to get a letter of approval from the township of jurisdiction and to have a traffic study done on the road; which the county will not pay for. He said, in the past, the subject was dropped after that because no one wanted to pay for the study. The traffic study can be done by most engineering firms and is quite costly. The study, after being completed, would have to show justification for reducing the speed limit or the committee would not consider it. Brekke mentioned that a petition was being generated at Clear Lake Resort. Keiffer mentioned that County P was originally a State highway and was built to a state standard for 55 miles per hour travel. Keiffer will get crash data for County P. The commission agreed that Brekke must first go to the township of Pelican, get their approval in writing, then determine who will pay for the traffic study.
5. Discussed private contractors using portable, temporary traffic signals on county and state highways. Bennett explained that his department did not and would not give any private contractor the authorization to use portable traffic signal instead of flag persons when working on county trunk highways or right of ways. He asked if anyone comes across this happening in Oneida County, to please contact him directly.
6. Highway Safety Reports:
 - In 2015, Wisconsin saw a total of 563 traffic fatalities; higher than the 5 year average. Oneida County saw 4 traffic fatalities in 2015. For 2016, to date, there have been 39 fatalities, compared to 42 this same time last year.
 - There will no grants for Oneida County this year.
 - The only funding available is for "Safe Rides" for festivals. Gauthier said he would be contacting them when the Hodag Festival comes around.
 - Discussed the use of 'Community Maps'
7. No Construction updates by Keiffer
8. No Other Public comments
9. Future meetings scheduled for: May 17th, 2016, August 16th, 2016, and November 15th, 2016. All meetings are at 12:30 p.m. at the Rhinelander Highway Shop.
10. **Motion:** Keiffer/McEldowney to adjourn at 1:45 p.m. All ayes.

Committee Chairperson

Committee Vice-Chairperson